

What is claimed is:

1. A method for playing a digital audio recording at a speed other than 1X, the method comprising:
 - retrieving stored digital audio information represented in a plurality of audio frames;
 - ranking at least a portion of said plurality of audio frames according to an energy content of said portion of said audio frames;
 - deleting from said portion of said plurality of audio frames having least energy content in accordance with said ranking step; and,
 - selecting remaining ones of said portion of audio frames following said deleting step to form an audio trick mode playback signal.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step further comprises concatenating said remaining audio frames to form said audio trick mode playback signal.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said deleting step further comprises deleting from said portion of said plurality of audio frames a percentage of said plurality in accordance with a selected trick mode playback speed.
4. A method for playing audio programming accompanying a video presentation during trick mode playback at a speed other than 1X, the method comprising:
 - retrieving information representing at least a video portion and a corresponding audio portion of said video presentation, said audio portion representing audio information in a plurality of audio frames;
 - ranking at least a portion of said plurality of audio frames according to an energy content of said portion of said audio frames; and,
 - selecting ones of said portion of audio frames based on said ranking step to form an audio trick mode playback signal.
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said ranking step further comprises calculating said energy content of at least a portion of said plurality of audio frames.

6. The method according to claim 4, wherein said selecting step further comprises removing a portion of said plurality of audio frames in accordance with a selected video trick mode speed.

7. The method according to claim 5, wherein said selecting step further comprises removing said portion of said plurality of audio frames having least energy content in accordance with said calculating step.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein said selecting step further comprises concatenating audio frames remaining having removed said audio frames having least energy content to form said trick mode playback signal.

9. The method according to claim 6, wherein said removing step further comprises increasing a size of said portion of audio frames to be removed to facilitate a faster video trick mode playback speed.

10. The method according to claim 5, wherein said calculating step further comprises summing magnitude values representing instantaneous voltage values for at least one audio frame.

11. The method according to claim 5, wherein said calculating step further comprises summing magnitudes of values in frequency bins within a frequency range for at least one audio frame.

12. An apparatus for playing audio programming associated with video programming during trick mode playback at other than 1X speed, comprising:
a storage medium reader for retrieving from a storage medium information representing at least a video portion and a corresponding audio portion of a program, said audio portion representing audio information in a plurality of audio frames; and,
an audio processor for ranking at least a portion of said plurality of audio frames according to an energy content of said portion of said audio frames, and forming an audio trick mode playback signal from selected ones of said portion of audio frames, in accordance with said ranking of said at least a portion of said audio frames.

1 13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said audio processor
2 comprising a calculating means for calculating said energy content of at least a
3 portion of said plurality of audio frames.

1 14. The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said audio processor further
2 comprises means for selectively removing from said audio portion, a percentage
3 portion of said plurality of audio frames in accordance with a selected video trick
4 mode playback speed.

1 15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said removing means for
2 selectively removes from said plurality of audio frames said percentage portion of
3 said plurality of audio frames having a least amount of said calculated energy
4 content.

1 16. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said audio processor
2 concatenates audio frames remaining after said removal of said percentage portion
3 of said plurality of audio frames to form said trick mode playback signal audio trick
4 mode playback signal.

1 17. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said removing means
2 increases said percentage portion of audio frames to be removed to facilitate a
3 faster trick mode playback speed.

1 18. The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said calculating means
2 calculates said energy content by determining a sum of absolute values of
3 magnitudes of an instantaneous value representing the voltage for at least one
4 audio frame.

1 19. The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said calculating means
2 calculates said energy content by determining a sum of magnitudes of values in
3 frequency bins within a frequency range for at least one audio frame.